AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1157 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1933 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary | VOL. 23, NO. 14

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

To know how to suggest is the art of teaching.—Amiel.

A. F. of L. Opposes Senate Finance Committee Amendments To Industrial Recovery Act

Union Representatives from All Parts of the Country Wish to Cooperate with Industry and the Government, but Prefer the Act As Passed by the House of Representatives.

Washington.—One hundred and six representatives of national and international unions, from all parts of the United States, attended a special conference here, called by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, to consider the Industrial Recovery Act and Public Works Bill.

At the conclusion of the conference Mr. Green issued the following statement:

"The representatives of the American Federation of Labor, who have been meeting in Washington during the last two days, gave unanimous approval to the Industrial Recovery Act as passed by the House of Representatives.

"This decision was arrived at after two days of careful thought and study of the proposed legislation with particular reference to the labor sections.

"On the other hand, strong opposition was voiced to the amendments proposed by the Senate Committee on Finance.

"By direction of the conference the officers of the American Federation of Labor will request the members of the United States Senate to vote against the amendments proposed by the Senate Finance Committee and to support and adopt the bill as it was reported to the Senate after approval by the House of Representatives.

"The labor representatives in attendance at conference, representing the organized workers of the Nation, expressed their willingness as well as their sincere desire to cooperate with the representatives of industry and of the Government in making the Industrial Recovery Act a complete success.

"They were unanimous in their opinion, however, that the greatest degree of cooperation on the part of all associated with industry could be secured through the enactment into law of the Industrial Recovery Act as it passed the House of Representatives.

"The officers of the American Federation of Labor will present this statement to the members of the United States Senate. The remarks were unanimously adopted by those in attendance at the American Federation of Labor conference."

YELLOW DOG CONTRACT BILL SIGNED BY ROLPH

Sacramento, Calif.—Governor Rolph signed the anti-"yellow dog" bill pushed through the legislature by Assemblyman Cronin, of San Francisco, at the instance of the State Federation of Labor. This climaxes a fight by organized labor in California that has lasted many years.

The law makes void any contract signed by a worker in which he is compelled, as a condition to securing employment, to agree not to join a labor union without the consent of his employer. The injunction clause was stricken from the bill before its passage, but union leaders hope to be able to replace it and put more teeth in the measure by amendment at the next session of the legislature.

Spokane Labor Hits Unfair Beer; Raps Ellensburg Rodeo

Spokane, Wash.—The Spokane Central Labor Council, intensifying labor's fight against the unfair Spokane Brewing Company, has outlawed its "Bohemia Club" beer and put the brewery on its unfair list.

Officials of this brewery were mighty "sweet" to organized labor before the election to legalize 3.2 per cent beer but since then, it is charged, agreements the unions would be recognized fully when manufacture was resumed.

After the labor ban they decided to ditch their pledges for profits, and since have turned a cold shoulder to all union proposals and officials.

The Central Council also took a rap at the Ellensburg Rodeo, which chose to sponsor the contest for its queen by Silver Lead Mining Company which was declared unfair to organized labor.

Florida Legislators Kill Workmen's Compensation

Tallahassee, Fla.—A reactionary majority of the lower house of the legislature practically killed the workmen's compensation bill by preventing it from reaching a vote on passage.

Only a two-thirds vote now would reconsider the measure, which, unanimously adopted by those in attendance at the American Federation of Labor conference."

Washington Conference Adopts Program For Child Labor Amendment Ratification

Washington.—Representatives of 18 national organizations and of the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor conferred here at the headquarters of the National League of Women Voters on the ratification of the child labor amendment to the Federal Constitution, already approved by 12 States.

The conference decided to carry on a broad publicity and intensive drive movement in favor of the amendment in the States which have not adopted it. The legislatures of three States, Illinois, Massachusetts and New Jersey, are now in session, and the legislatures of Louisiana, Oklahoma and Idaho meet later this year.

The executive committee was appointed to carry out the program adopted by the conference: Courtney Dinwiddie, National Child Labor Committee; Mrs. Clara M. Beyer, United States Children's Bureau, and Miss Lucy Mason, National Consumers' League.

Organized labor was represented at the conference as follows: H. C. Hushing, American Federation of Labor; Arthur J. Lovell, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers, and A. J. Rond, Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes.

700 Furniture Workers Strike; 5 Cents Per Hour Paid Under "Efficiency" System

Evansville, Ind. — Sweatshop conditions in Evansville factories, with adult wages in some cases as low as 5 cents an hour, were disclosed by the strike of 700 C.I.O.-House-Wolff furniture factory workers. The Central Labor Union, as a result, appealed to Washington for a Federal investigation of industries here whose products go into interstate commerce.

The walkout completely tied up the plant, with only department foremen remaining on the job. The strikers tell stories of exploitation unbelievable if it were not backed by documentary proof. One experienced machine hand exhibited a coupon calling for 19 cents for four hours' work. Piecework in industries here whose products go into interstate commerce.

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The strikers charged that under the so-called efficiency system, although pay is by the hour, say at 30 cents, an extra stint is then tacked on, though it takes a workman three or four hours to do the stint, he is paid only the 30 cents for the hour's work. The men are paid only for time consumed in actual sales of the material in hand, and are allowed nothing for time in carrying it to or from the machines, or for time spent in calling out bad material. It is charged.

Plant officials deny this, but the evidence of the workers seems unanimous. The officials, however, inferentially admit the conditions are execrable when they plead they must enforce their rules in order to cooperate with southern low-wage employers.

59 CENTS PER DAY PAID DETROIT SANDWICH GIRLS

Detroit, Mich.—The Bungalow Sandwich Shops, operating three places here, is charged by the Detroit Labor News with inaugurating the so-called community basis of buying employes, with wages as low as 59 cents a day.

The plan called for the setting aside of 20 per cent of the gross proceeds to pay the bill, to be divided according to previous wages, with an increase promised as business picked up. The employes knew that business had increased, and demanded the promised pay boost, which the management refused.

Some of the girls walked out with pay checks for $5.70 for five days' work, but with 75 cents deducted for clean uniforms, which left them $2.95, or 59 cents a day.

The Labor News also charges that although the State law limits the work week for women to 54 hours, the employes of this concern were compelled to work nine hours a day for six days a week and three hours on their day off.

The manager refused to let the girls examine the pay envelopes to see whether they were fairly paid according to the 20 per cent commission scheme.

New Restrictions Bar Many Families from Relief Rolls

Uniontown, Pa.—George W. Hibbs, county relief director, proposes to unload at least 3,000 of the 16,500 Fayette County families now receiving aid, through a re-registration plan he has put in effect.

The new registration requires every family to empower the relief agent to examine postal savings and bank records, and imposes many restrictions not now in force, which are depended upon to disqualify many families now on the rolls.

There are only about 45,000 families in Fayette County, so more than one-third now are listed as dependent on public funds.

Tacoma Teamsters Walk Out In Protest Against Pay Cut

Tacoma, Wash. — Arbitrary wage slashes, enforced by 10 members of the "Truck Owners' Association," including the Yellow Cab Co., while a board of arbitration actually was in session trying to settle the dispute, compelled a walkout by self-respecting members of Teamsters and Chauffeurs' Union, Local No. 313, here.

Truck members of the owners' association refused to join in the tyrannical wage slash, and continued doing business with the union, pending resumption of the arbitration, temporarily interrupted by the action of the recalcitrant owners.

The Yellow Cab Company reduced the wage for a 48-hour day to $2, from $3. Truck drivers were slashed to $3 and $3.25 from $4.75 and $5.25, respectively, for an eight-hour day.

Copper Mine Shut Down Will Throw Hundreds Out of Work

Superior, Ariz.—The mine and plants of Magma Copper Company will close down here on July 1, throwing several hundred men out of employment, according to a notice signed by William Greene, general manager, and posted at mine, mill and smelter.

The Magma Company is an example of absentee ownership, all officers and directors except the manager being listed as residents of New York City.

California Contractor Fined $630 for Wage Rate Violation

Los Angeles, Calif.—The board of supervisors of Los Angeles County will withhold from the Charles W. Pettit Company $630 due on the Rio Hondo and Los Angeles river bridge jobs, penalties imposed by Frank C. McDonald, State Labor Commissioner, for 63 violations of the prevailing wage rate law, at $10 each.

The workmen mulcted were pile driver men, concrete form builders and skilled laborers who were paid $2 to $4 per day less than the scale provided in the schedules.

Lewis Smashes Lamont for Opposing Labor's Right to Organize in Unions

United Mine Workers' President Tells Senate Committee That Union Members Are Barred From Employment in Iron and Steel Industry—Supports Industrial Recovery Act as Necessary to Stabilize Industrial Processes.

Washington.—John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, gave R. T. Lamont, president of the American Iron and Steel Institute, a sound and deserved drubbing for his virulent opposition to the labor sections of the National Industrial Recovery Act in the hearings on the measure held by the Senate Finance Committee.

Mr. Lamont expressed the fear of those who own and operate the iron and steel industry that the act might result in the mass of the iron and steel workers becoming organized into bona fide trade unions with sufficient power to negotiate decent wages, hours, and working conditions by collective bargaining. He declared that the Institute stands positively for the "open" shop and is unalterably opposed to the "closed" shop, by which he meant the union shop.

Following Mr. Lamont in the hearings, Mr. Lewis said, in part:

"Mr. Lamont is head of the Iron and Steel Institute, which represents 90 to 95 per cent of the production units of the steel industry, likewise stands for the open shop.

Lamont's "Open" Shop

"That carries the implication that the open shop is an institution or a method of operation in which the steel industry can at will belong to a union or not belong to a union, as they see fit, and that the labor provisions are protecting the principle of the open shop mean that they decided not to belong to a union or not belong to a union.

"There is no open shop in the steel industry as represented by Mr. Lamont. There is no right to belong to a union in the steel industry. It is a misnomer.

Union Men Barred

"If any shop exists in the steel industry, it is the closed shop, closed to the man who wants to belong to a union. He cannot work in the steel industry if he belongs to a union, and the best evidence of that fact is that in the steel plants of the United States Steel Corporation and in all of its subsidiaries no man who dares say he belongs to a union. Why? Because the secret service bureau and the intelligence bureau of the United States Steel Company, the American Sheet & Tinplate Company, the National Tube Company, the American Bridge Company, all of the units of the Steel Corporation, report to the effect and he is immediately discharged, if he attends a union meeting, or if he ever votes to a sentiment that indicates his desire to belong to a union.

"That is the kind of open shop that exists in the steel industry which Mr. Lamont commends, and the institute pleads with this committee to maintain in the law.

Employers Thoroughly Organized

"Organized labor in America wants the right to organize if it wants to organize. Organized labor wants the right to join these trade associations. The employers in this line will make it almost mandatory upon every substantial employer of labor and producer of commodities entering into interstate commerce to join an organization for his protection. In the light of the history of the past, the enactment there will be a closed shop to employers and industrialists in this country in every trade and industry, and yet distinguished gentlemen have the effrontery to come before this committee and propose that, after securing these privileges for themselves, they will deny to the workmen engaged in those industries the same rights and privilege which they arrogate to themselves.

Hypocrisy Rampant

"Labor in America is tired of such hypocrisy; it is tired of being dealt with in such a manner by men who proclaim the present labor relationship, as was done this morning by a representative of the steel industry here, as a happy state of affairs existing, and a happy condition.

"A man who can say that labor relations in the last ten years in America is a happy condition, indeed, dwells in a realm to which I cannot ascend.

Employers' Dictatorship

"I refer him to the millions of workmen who have their standards of living degraded and their conditions of employment taken away from them, their hours of labor unduly lengthened by the arbitrary actions of employers who merely posted their wage schedules upon the bulletin boards and told them to take it or leave it.

"They had no voice in determining those conditions. They had no privilege to even express their opinion as to whether the policy was good, bad or indifferent.

$2.25 Per Day for Coal Miners

"I have here the case of a coal company in Harlan County, West Virginia, which withdrew from the recently formed Appalachian Coal Sales Organization formed to raise the price of coal in that area, because they found it more profitable to undersell the pool price by reducing the price of their labor and lengthening their hours. This statement shows they are running their mines now an average of from 12 to 16 hour a day, and the average per day worked underground by those men is 12 hours, and the average compensation received is $2.25 daily.

"They are making it impossible for the sales pool to function, and they are making it impossible for their labor to live and endure, because no man can work underground 12 hours a day and continue to maintain his health.

Reasonable Pay Demanded

"This legislation gentlemen, is intended, in the words of the President, to correct the attitude of that coal operation and many others, and bring the man that is dragging down industry—correct his attitude so that the product of that field may be protected against his discriminatory sales policy and influence him to the end that he pay his labor a reasonable day's work at a living wage.

"That is the purpose and the intent of this measure, and it cannot be accomplished in American industry so emasculating Section 7 upon the petition of men who come here to maintain a medieval relationship in labor."

Labor Supports Recovery Act

"I want to say in conclusion that organized labor is sincerely speaking through the American Federation of Labor and its subsidiaries, and indorsed the provisions of this legislation. They have endorsed it because of the hope that it will contribute to the Nation that is hourly growing worse.

"There is a grave necessity for the stabilization of our economic and industrial processes. There is a cooperative necessity for setting up machinery under the government for economic, coordination and regulation of processes of industry and labor relationship."

ST. JOSEPH RETAIL CLERKS ORGANIZE TWENTY STORES

St. Joseph, Mo.—Practically the entire sales force of the Berger-Bodenhausen Clothing Company, one of the most important business establishments here, have become members of the Retail Clerks' Union, organized a few months ago.

Webb Scanlan, president of the union, in a talk before the Central Labor Council, reported that 20 clerks in the three stores and eight members, twenty stores had signed up, one of them being the largest in the city.

"Our grievance is not so much pay as hours," Scanlan said. "We are not attempting to prevent a reaction in this city to longer hours of employment in commercial establishments."

He asked for the help of every union man in the city, claiming that only with the purchasing power of organized labor to back them up can the clerks' union would go over with a bang.

Motion Picture Operators Sign Up Many Theaters for Union

Akron, Ohio.—The intensive campaign started here in February by Motion Picture Operators' Union No. 364 has brought results. To date six former non-union houses have signed contracts, seven union houses have made satisfactory wage adjustments and have been made with four chain houses.

John A. Shuff, business agent for the union, declared that the drive is not letting up on the fight. One non-union house is under daily picketing, the management of another has been hailed into court on a charge of maintaining itself to the public as a union shop, when its operators, in fact, belong to a fourth A. F. of L. group, the Amalgamated Federation of Labor.

The brief in the case filed for the operators cites many decisions, including a noted Cincinnati case, in which their contentions were upheld.

California Thirty-Hour Week Bill Signed by Gov. Rolph

Sacramento, Calif.—Governor Rolph signed a bill fixing a 30-hour workweek on all public construction projects, whether undertaken by the State or any of its political subdivisions. The bill runs in force until July 1, 1935, unless the Governor sooner shall proclaim the end of public emergency.

The law is effective immediately and will be administered by the State Department of Industrial Relations. The bill excepts from its general terms persons employed on maintenance and repair work, for whom, however, it sets up a maximum eight-hour day and 44-hour week.

T. F. FLAHERTY, P. O. CLERKS' OFFICIAL, DIES

Washington.—Thomas F. Flaherty, secretary-treasurer of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks, died at his home here on June 3 at the age of 52.

The funeral services were attended by a large number of representatives of the American Federation of Labor, the national and international labor unions, and local labor movement. Tributes to Mr. Flaherty's life and his achievements for the welfare of the postal clerks in particular and all other Government employes were paid by Representative Kelly of Pennsylvania and James M. Mead of New York, and William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

The body, accompanied by Mrs. Flaherty and Leo M. George, president of the Post Office Clerks' Federation, was taken to San Francisco for interment.

Mr. Flaherty was born at Napa, Calif., August 15, 1885. He entered the postal service at San Francisco and immediately became active in organization affairs. He was a charter member of Local No. 2 and held office in that local continuously until 1913. He was a delegate to the Salt Lake City convention in 1912 and to the Washington convention in 1913 although he was not yet a member of that union.

Coming to Washington at the beginning of the session of Congress in 1913, he established the first Washington headquarters of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks. During the 20 years of his service as legislative representative he has won a high place in the esteem of public men of all stations. Among postal employes of all groups he was universally loved for his invaluable service to their cause but also for his great personal sympathy for the individual in trouble.

He participated in the formation of the Union Labor Life Insurance Company and was one of its board of directors.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Theresa Flaherty, herself a former head office clerk, a mother, Mrs. Anne Flaherty, and two brothers and six sisters, who live in California.

$16 MINIMUM WAGE FIXED FOR WOMEN IN CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles, Calif.—The Industrial Welfare Commission, meeting in San Francisco before coming to Los Angeles, heard the plea of employers that the minimum wage of $16 weekly for women be reduced. Also it announced that complaints of violations would be investigated thoroughly.

At the meeting employers were warned that all women workers in offices, business and professional, must be paid this minimum, and that no special privilege orders would be received after their present expiration dates.

Charles O. Conrad, business agent of Plumbers' Union No. 444, of Alameda, represents California organized labor on the commission, and Harry L. Hadley opposed reduction from the beginning.

WILKES-BARRE MERCHANTS OPPOSE SWEATSHOP WAGES

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—A militant campaign against sweatshops and sweatshop products was launched at the first general meeting of the new Wilkes-Barre Wyoming Valley Mercantile Association, attended by about 100 representative merchants of the area.

Harry D. Adams, vice president of the Pennsylvania Retailers' Association and principal speaker, vigorously condemned both sweatshops and merchants who aid in the distribution and sale of goods made therein. He declared:

"Our prosperity is to approach the normal basis we hope for, labor must be employed at living wages and under decent working conditions. It is the universal responsibility of business. Only limitless profits justify the honorable and ethical retailer, and finally the customer or consumer who, as a result, really determines the type of business by the purchases he makes will be compelled to pay wages by the prices he is willing to pay."

Motion Picture Operators Win Strike in Tucson, Ariz.

Tucson, Ariz.—The Tucson Trades Council has removed from its unfair list the Opera House, the Motion Picture Operators' Local No. 295 announcing that the management had come to terms and signed a contract to employ union men in all the theaters.

"The manager resigned and his place has been taken by Roy Smith, who has been assistant manager for a year. The contract was signed by Public Corporation, which operates the house, Sam Kontas for the Motion Picture Operators' Union, and Joe Durkin, secretary of the Trades Council.

Union Music for Municipal Concerts in Pocatello, Idaho

Pocatello, Idaho.—The City Council has made an agreement with a committee representing Local No. 255 of the American Federation of Musicians whereby the union will furnish the music for municipal concerts to be given during the summer season.

Heretofore the contract has been let to individuals. Under the agreement between the city and musicians' local a municipal band is established and all materials purchased remain the property of the city, the musicians' duties to the contractor at the end of the season.

Tampa Unions Put Low-Wage Brewery on Unfair List

Tampa.—Wearying of long and patient attempts to reason with officials of the Florida Brewing Company, the Central Labor Council has placed that firm on its unfair list. It was disclosed that the company is paying practically all its help in remodeling the plant at the niggardly rate of $4.50 per day.

A committee was appointed to inform Florida organized labor and the friends of the cause of the concern. The committee is sending a placard, truck about the city, and is printing circulars to be distributed throughout the State.

Sacramento Carpenters Win Strike on Compton's Dairy Lunches

San Francisco.—Compton's chain of dairy lunches is declared unfair to organized labor, in a circular letter broadcast by the Local Joint Executive Board of Culinary Workers and Bartender Stewards to friends throughout this district.

Compton's three months ago arbitrarily cut employes' wages 32 weekly and all attempts to obtain adjustment subsequently failed, though the restaurants had been 100 per cent unionized and the company had secured a large union labor patronage. They have been put on the "We Don't Patronize" list of the San Francisco Labor Council.

Contractor Imports Labor On Louisville Sewer Job

Louisville, Ky.—A special committee reported to the board of aldermen that S. H. Healy, contractor, imported outside workmen on a city sewer job, although local men who had proved themselves competent and capable of similar work for local contractors applied for and were denied work.

The Committee of Forty Clubs, through J. T. Woodard, secretary, comes back with pertinent queries, climaxed by a demand to know why, now that the injustice is known, the Sewer Commission and the Board of Aldermen do not correct it, by making the contractor live up to his agreement or cancel it.

Striking Zinc Workers Ask 33 Per Cent Wage Increase

Danville, Ill.—The Hegeler Zinc Company strikers voted nearly 2 to 1 against accepting the firm's offer of a 10 per cent wage raise and returning to work. They demanded a straight 33⅓ per cent boost.

The organization of the Hegeler Company employes was perfected only the day before the ballot was taken.

Green Denounces Manufacturers' Association for Opposing Labor Sections of the Recovery Act

A. F. of L. President Declares Notorious Anti-Union Employers' Group, Closely Organized, Wants to Hog the Benefits of the Bill for Themselves and Then Victimize the Workers by Preventing Them From Organizing Into Effective Trade Unions.

Washington.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, administered a stinging rebuke to the National Association of Manufacturers for their malignant opposition to the labor sections of the National Industrial Recovery Act as adopted by the House of Representatives.

"The provisions which drew the attack of the anti-union manufacturers' association provide that the codes developed under the act shall guarantee the right of the employes to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, without interference from employers, and that no employe shall be required to join a company union or refrain from joining a labor organization as the price of a job.

"The opposition of the Manufacturers' Association to the labor sections of the Industrial Recovery Act," Mr. Green declared, "is in most untruthful as well as a most inconsistent position.

Glaringly Inconsistent

"They are consistent only in their traditional opposition to the exercise of the right of the workers to organize into bona fide trade unions. Their opposition is glaringly inconsistent because while they are willing to accept the provisions of the Industrial Recovery Act, which confer upon them the right to organize, to fix prices and to compel any employer who refuses to conform to their price-fixing arrangements to do so or forfeit his right to engage in industrial production, they seek to deny their own workers the right to organize and bargain collectively.

"The Manufacturers' Association is willing that its members shall exercise the right to organize, to establish a closed shop, so far as employers are concerned, under the protection of the Government, but they are unwilling to accord to labor the right to organize and to be represented by representatives of their own choosing. Such a position is indefensible.

"It is inconceivable that Congress would grant to employers the right to organize, through a closed organization of employers, and deny their workers the right to organize and be represented by representatives of their own choosing.

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"It is inconceivable that Congress would grant to employers the right to join trade unions as they choose and bargain through their own representatives on wages and working conditions and deny to the workers' organizations of employer group. Unless Section 7 is definitely written into the industrial recovery bill it will try to organize not only all manufacturing but every line of industrial endeavor in the Nation.

Wire, write, talk, get your friends busy, in the State and elsewhere, please, to support workers' rights secured, but in any event and at any cost the present open shop" and "company union."

LABOR BOYCOTTS NON-UNION BEER IN SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

San Diego, Calif.—The Federated Trades and Labor Council here has put on its unfair list both the Aztec and Ritz brewing companies, the first a product of a San Juana brewery, and the other a small plant being moved here from Nogales, Mexico.

The first-named in opening up here announced its intention to run a union shop, but refused to meet the wages demanded by the building trades unions in building their plant. The other simply refused to meet the union demands of organized labor, its manager saying:

"If we have the correct understanding of the Government proposal and the State moves to enact the available funds, the depression will be over in Colorado."

A committee of ten selected by the governor is engaged in making a survey of public work projects deemed feasible for immediate undertaking. C. B. Noxon, president of the Colorado State Federation of Labor, is the labor member of the committee.

Houston Garment Workers Open Union Shirt Factory

Houston, Tex.—Organized workers here have established a factory making to order union label dress shirts, and leaders of the enterprise express confidence that friends throughout the State will be glad of the opportunity to buy garments made in Texas at fair wages and under proper working conditions in preference to all others.

The product will be known as the "Foursome" brand. Orders are on hand to keep the operators busy for several months, but it is proposed to expand as rapidly as possible, and utilimately to put their product on sale everywhere in the State. It is the only factory making shirts in the State, and to be the only one south of Cincinnati.

Denver Lockout Employers Hit with Contempt Charge

Denver.—Two labor lockout experts, Harry Huffman and J. H. Dekker, respondents in the defiance of injunction of union theater employes here, are by way of learning that the medicine more usually handed out by courts to organized labor than to satraps of the theater trust.

Judge Starkweather in District Court has cited them to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt, because of their failure to heed the order of another court upholding the jurisdiction of the State Industrial Commission in the labor controversies.

The commission has jurisdiction only over industries charged with public interest, and that theaters are not so affected.

$50,000,000 PUBLIC WORKS FOR COLORADO

Gov. Johnson Puts Union Official On Planning Committee

Denver.—Governor Johnson has announced that $50,000,000 in public works will form for submission to a special session of the legislature to be called next month, this in addition to $6,000,000 to be spent in road building.

The proposal is on a Federal grant of $15,000,000 of the $3,300,000,000 public works appropriation the State will likely receive, to be matched by a State issue. The governor said:

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Federal Prosecutor Fights Labor Section of Industrial Recovery Act

Chicago, Ill.—The Illinois Manufacturers' Association flooded the entire State with a specious appeal coaching its members to bombard the Federal Congress, especially Senators Lewis and Dieterich and members of the House Finance Committee, to defeat the labor section of President Roosevelt's National Recovery Act.

That employes shall have the right to join trade unions as they choose and bargain through their own representatives on wages and working conditions is one of the most vital provisions of the entire employer group. Unless Section 7 is definitely written into the industrial recovery bill will try to organize not only all manufacturing but every line of industrial endeavor in the Nation.

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Moving Picture Operators Strike Against Wage Cut

Pittston, Pa.—Moving picture operators here went on strike against unjust demands made by the management of the Roman Theater, a local chain house.

The management tried to cut wages 12½ per cent and at the same time demanded that one operator handle both projection reels, besides handling the work of two, according to the strikers, who are members of Local No. 120, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Motion Picture Operators.

Union Music for Municipal Concerts in Pocatello, Idaho

Pocatello, Idaho.—The City Council has made an agreement with a committee representing Local No. 255 of the American Federation of Musicians whereby the union will furnish the music for municipal concerts to be given during the summer season.

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A. F. of L. President Declares Notorious Anti-Union Employers' Group, Closely Organized, Wants to Hog the Benefits of the Bill for Themselves and Then Victimize the Workers by Preventing Them From Organizing Into Effective Trade Unions.

Washington.—William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, administered a stinging rebuke to the National Association of Manufacturers for their malignant opposition to the labor sections of the National Industrial Recovery Act as adopted by the House of Representatives.

"The provisions which drew the attack of the anti-union manufacturers' association provide that the codes developed under the act shall guarantee the right of the employes to organize and bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, without interference from employers, and that no employe shall be required to join a company union or refrain from joining a labor organization as the price of a job.

"The opposition of the Manufacturers' Association to the labor sections of the Industrial Recovery Act," Mr. Green declared, "is in most untruthful as well as a most inconsistent position.

Glaringly Inconsistent

"They are consistent only in their traditional opposition to the exercise of the right of the workers to organize into bona fide trade unions. Their opposition is glaringly inconsistent because while they are willing to accept the provisions of the Industrial Recovery Act, which confer upon them the right to organize, to fix prices and to compel any employer who refuses to conform to their price-fixing arrangements to do so or forfeit his right to engage in industrial production, they seek to deny their own workers the right to organize and bargain collectively.

"The Manufacturers' Association is willing that its members shall exercise the right to organize, to establish a closed shop, so far as employers are concerned, under the protection of the Government, but they are unwilling to accord to labor the right to organize and to be represented by representatives of their own choosing. Such a position is indefensible.

"It is inconceivable that Congress would grant to employers the right to join, through a closed organization of employers, and deny their workers the right to organize and be represented by representatives of their own choosing.

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"It is inconceivable that Congress would grant to employers the right to join trade unions as they choose and bargain through their own representatives on wages and working conditions and deny to the workers' organizations of employer group. Unless Section 7 is definitely written into the industrial recovery bill will try to organize not only all manufacturing but every line of industrial endeavor in the Nation.

"Labor will appeal to its friends in Congress to vote against the bill if the labor sections, as adopted by the House of Representatives, are eliminated or modified."

LABOR BOYCOTTS NON-UNION BEER IN SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

San Diego, Calif.—The Federated Trades and Labor Council here has put on its unfair list both the Aztec and Ritz brewing companies, the first a product of a San Juana brewery, and the other a small plant being moved here from Nogales, Mexico.

The first-named in opening up here announced its intention to run a union shop, but refused to meet the wages demanded by the building trades unions in building their plant. The other simply refused to meet the union demands of organized labor, its manager saying:

"If we have the correct understanding of the Government proposal and the State moves to enact the available funds, the depression will be over in Colorado."

A committee of ten selected by the governor is engaged in making a survey of public work projects deemed feasible for immediate undertaking. C. B. Noxon, president of the Colorado State Federation of Labor, is the labor member of the committee.

Houston Garment Workers Open Union Shirt Factory

Houston, Tex.—Organized workers here have established a factory making to order union label dress shirts, and leaders of the enterprise express confidence that friends throughout the State will be glad of the opportunity to buy garments made in Texas at fair wages and under proper working conditions in preference to all others.

The product will be known as the "Foursome" brand. Orders are on hand to keep the operators busy for several months, but it is proposed to expand as rapidly as possible, and ultimately to put their product on sale everywhere in the State. It is the only factory making shirts in the State, and to be the only one south of Cincinnati.

$50,000,000 PUBLIC WORKS FOR COLORADO

Gov. Johnson Puts Union Official On Planning Committee

Denver.—Governor Johnson has announced that $50,000,000 in public works will form for submission to a special session of the legislature to be called next month, this in addition to $6,000,000 to be spent in road building.

The proposal is on a Federal grant of $15,000,000 of the $3,300,000,000 public works appropriation the State will likely receive, to be matched by a State issue. The governor said:

"If we have the correct understanding of the Government proposal and the State moves to enact the available funds, the depression will be over in Colorado."

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Denver Lockout Employers Hit with Contempt Charge

Denver.—Two labor lockout experts, Harry Huffman and J. H. Dekker, respondents in the defiance of injunction of union theater employes here, are by way of learning that the medicine more usually handed out by courts to organized labor than to satraps of the theater trust.

Judge Starkweather in District Court has cited them to show cause why they should not be punished for contempt, because of their failure to heed the order of another court upholding the jurisdiction of the State Industrial Commission in the labor controversies.

The commission has jurisdiction only over industries charged with public interest, and that theaters are not so affected.

EMPLOYERS FLOUT MINIMUM WAGE FOR WOMEN IN CANADA

Vancouver, B. C.—The Women's Minimum Wage Board, after much investigation and many court actions, has concluded that thousands of girls and women in British Columbia are working below the minimum wage that fixed by the board and involuntarily aiding employers by various subterfuges to conceal their delinquencies.

The board finds that employers are combating the acquirement and assistance of these unfortunates through fear of losing their jobs, although the law provides punishment for employers who place blacklist workers for testifying against them, and forbids any deductions from the prescribed wages paid by employers.

Complaints are common that many girls are given only a few hours a week at the hourly pro rata of the minimum, often not earning enough for carfare and lunches, while at the seeming ease with which employers escape penalties they worry little over and are asking for a lower minimum and a lengthening of apprenticeships.

Potters' Union Re-elects Duffy and McGillivray

East Liverpool, Ohio.—The National Brotherhood of Operative Potters annual convention here resulted in the re-election of officials of the brotherhood James M. Duffy and John D. McGillivray were re-elected president and secretary-treasurer, respectively.

The following vice presidents were chosen: E. L. Wheatley, George Chadwick, Hugh C. Church, Alex Young, George Turner, and Joshua Chadwick.

The terms for the new officers begin on August 1. The 1934 convention will be held in East Liverpool.

William Ashbaugh of Local Union No. 4 was elected delegate to the next convention of the American Federation of Labor.